



## **Staff Report**

---

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FILING OF THE BAY AREA AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT (BAAQMD) BICYCLE FACILITY PROGRAM (BFP) GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE U.S. HIGHWAY 101 BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE PROJECT (CITY CONTRACT NUMBER 433) REQUESTING AN AMOUNT OF \$57,500 AND FOR INSTALLING BICYCLE LANES ON ALAMEDA DE LAS PULGAS SOUTH OF RALSTON AVENUE REQUESTING AN AMOUNT OF \$15,000

Honorable Mayor and Council Members:

### **Summary**

Staff is seeking approval from City Council to apply for the 2008 Bicycle Facility Program (BFP) grant for the total amount of \$72,500 to fund two projects. The first project is the construction of the U.S. Highway 101 Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge Project requesting \$57,500 in grant funds. The second project involves installation of bicycle lanes on Alameda de las Pulgas south of Ralston Avenue requesting \$15,000. A single grant application may combine multiple project types. The BFP grant is administered by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District.

### **Background**

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) has made funds available through the Bicycle Facility Program (BFP) to encourage bicycling as a strategy to reduce mobile source emissions in the Bay Area. The BFP has been developed as a separate grant program to provide a more streamlined mechanism for funding the implementation of new bicycle facilities in the region. The BFP is funded by the Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA). TFCA revenues are generated through a \$4 surcharge on motor vehicle registrations within the Air District's jurisdiction. The Air District's objectives for the TFCA program are to fund the most cost-effective projects that reduce motor vehicle emissions, and to support the implementation of the transportation control measures and mobile source measures in the Bay Area.

Construction of a bicycle and pedestrian bridge over U.S. Highway 101 is one of the City's priority projects. The project design is now complete and the City will be ready to invite bids for construction as soon as it obtains sufficient funding commitments. Public Works projects of this size are typically funded from several sources, drawing primarily from federal and state grants. The City's strategy for this project is to identify all appropriate grant opportunities and apply for grants as they become available. The City has identified \$400,000 of Park Improvement funds, but will not commit these funds until such time as it accumulates sufficient grant funding to complete the project.

The current estimate for the bicycle and pedestrian bridge is \$5.5 million for construction and construction management services. The City has secured the following funding:

<u>Secured Funding Sources</u>	<u>Amount</u>
• Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) FY 01/02	\$ 585,000
• Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU)	\$2,600,000
• City funds (Park Improvement funds)	\$ 400,000
Total	\$3,585,000

Staff is also seeking Council's approval to apply for funding from this same grant to provide bicycle lanes on Alameda de las Pulgas south of Ralston Avenue. The details for this bicycle lane project will be heard as a separate item in the same City Council meeting. Staff is watching for other funding opportunities and will recommend applying for them when they become available.

### **Discussion**

BAAQMD has announced that BFP funds are available for the entire nine Bay Area counties. Eligible grant recipients will be responsible for the implementation of the project and must have the authority and capability to complete the project. An eligible project must meet the following criteria to be considered for funding:

- Result in a new bicycle facility, which is available for public use.
- Be included in an adopted municipal or countywide bicycle plan, Congestion Management Program (CMP), or the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's *Regional Bicycle Plan*.
- Reduce motor vehicle emissions through providing an alternative to vehicle trips made for utilitarian purposes (such as work/school commuting, shopping, etc.).
- Be ready for implementation. A project will only be considered for funding if it will commence (e.g., begin installation, award a construction contract, take delivery of the product, etc.) in calendar year 2009 or sooner.
- Have the funding necessary to complete the project available so that the project meets the implementation and completion criteria.

TFCA funds are distributed to implement projects to reduce air pollution from motor vehicles in accordance with the requirements of State law and the Air District's *Bay Area 2005 Ozone Strategy*. Belmont's Bicycle and Pedestrian Bridge is eligible for this grant because the bikeway improvement spanning U.S. Highway 101 is the #3 priority project identified in the 2000 San Mateo County's Comprehensive Bicycle Route Plan. There is no deadline for application to be

submitted to BAAQMD. Air District staff will determine the projects to be funded on a first-come, first-served basis. Air District staff will notify applicants of the status of their application within thirty-days of receipt. Project sponsors must sign a Funding Agreement within two (2) months from the date of award in order to remain eligible for the BFP grant.

### **General Plan/Vision Statement**

The installation of bicycle pathways comply with the General Plan – Circulation Element Goal #10: *“To provide a system of hiking and riding trails, pedestrian paths, bicycle paths and lanes to: a) Provide recreation, particularly scenic, quiet, leisurely neighborhood walks and rides; b) Furnish easy access to trails from individual properties; c) Permit safe, pleasant travel among parts of the community; d) Connect local areas within the City to through trails and paths and regional trail and path systems.”*

### **Fiscal Impact**

There is no direct fiscal impact from Council’s approval of the BFP grant application. If the application is approved, the funding will be used for the construction of each project.

### **Public Contact**

The City Council meeting agenda was posted.

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that City Council authorize the Director of Public Works to submit an application for the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) Bicycle Facility Program (BFP) grant for the U.S. Highway 101 Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge project (City Contract Number 433) and for installing bicycle lanes on Alameda de las Pulgas between Carlmont Drive and the southerly City limits.

### **Alternatives**

1. Take no action.
2. Refer back to staff for further information.
3. Deny approval

**Attachments**

A. Resolution

Respectfully submitted,

---

Gilbert Yau, PE  
Senior Civil Engineer

---

Raymond E. Davis III, PE, PTOE  
Director of Public Works

---

Jack R. Crist  
City Manager

Staff contact:  
Ray Davis  
Director of Public Works  
(650) 595-7459  
rdavis@belmont.gov

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELMONT APPROVING  
THE FILING OF THE BAY AREA AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
(BAAQMD) BICYCLE FACILITY PROGRAM (BFP) GRANT APPLICATION FOR  
THE U.S. HIGHWAY 101 BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE PROJECT (CITY  
CONTRACT NUMBER 433) REQUESTING AN AMOUNT OF \$57,500 AND FOR  
INSTALLING BICYCLE LANES ON ALAMEDA DE LAS PULGAS SOUTH OF  
RALSTON AVENUE REQUESTING AN AMOUNT OF \$15,000**

**WHEREAS**, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) has made funds available through the Bicycle Facility Program (BFP) to encourage bicycling as a strategy to reduce mobile source emissions in the Bay Area; and,

**WHEREAS**, BAAQMD allocates Transportation Fund for Clean Air grant funds toward projects that reduce air pollution from motor vehicles in accordance with the requirement of the State law and the Air District's *Bay Area 2005 Ozone Strategy*; and,

**WHEREAS**, staff is seeking approval for the City Council to apply for a Bicycle Facility Program (BFP) grant for the U.S. Highway 101 Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge project (City Contract Number 433) requesting an amount of \$57,500 and for installing bicycle lanes on Alameda de las Pulgas between Carlmont Drive and the southerly City limits requesting an amount of \$15,000.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Belmont does hereby authorize the Director of Public Works to submit an application for the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) Bicycle Facility Program (BFP) grant for the U.S. Highway 101 Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge project (City Contract Number 433) and for installing bicycle lanes on Alameda de las Pulgas between Carlmont Drive and the southerly City limits.

\* \* \* \* \*

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Belmont at a regular meeting thereof held on June 24, 2008 by the following vote:

AYES, COUNCILMEMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_

NOES, COUNCILMEMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSTAIN, COUNCILMEMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSENT, COUNCILMEMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
CLERK of the City of Belmont

APPROVED:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_

MAYOR of the City of Belmont